

## 1 VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY — CHAPTER

2 *An Act to amend the Code of Virginia by adding in Title 54.1 a chapter numbered 23.4, consisting of*  
 3 *sections numbered 54.1-2355 through 54.1-2358, relating to the Department of Professional and*  
 4 *Occupational Regulation; certification of natural gas automobile mechanics and technicians.*

[H 516]

6 Approved

7 **Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**

8 **1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding in Title 54.1 a chapter numbered 23.4,**  
 9 **consisting of sections numbered 54.1-2355 through 54.1-2358, as follows:**

## 10 CHAPTER 23.4.

## 11 NATURAL GAS AUTOMOBILE MECHANICS AND TECHNICIANS.

12 **§ 54.1-2355. Definitions.**13 *As used in this chapter, unless the context requires a different meaning:*

14 *"Certified NG automobile mechanic or technician" means a person certified by the Director who*  
 15 *offers to the public for compensation services relating to the repair, conversion, or maintenance of*  
 16 *motor vehicles that use in whole or in part natural gas as a fuel.*

17 *"Department" means the Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation.*18 *"Director" means the Director of the Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation.*

19 *"Motor vehicle" means an automobile, motorcycle, mobile home, truck, van, or other vehicle*  
 20 *operated on public highways and streets.*

21 *"Natural gas" means a combustible mixture of gaseous hydrocarbons that accumulates in porous*  
 22 *sedimentary rocks, especially those yielding petroleum, consisting usually of over 80 percent methane*  
 23 *together with minor amounts of ethane, propane, butane, nitrogen, and, sometimes, helium used as a*  
 24 *fuel.*

25 **§ 54.1-2356. Powers and duties of the Department.**

26 *The Department shall administer and enforce the provisions of this chapter. In addition to the*  
 27 *powers and duties otherwise conferred by law, the Director shall have the powers and duties of a*  
 28 *regulatory board as contained in §§ 54.1-201 and 54.1-202 and shall have the power and duty to:*

29 *1. Promulgate regulations in accordance with the Administrative Process Act (§ 2.2-4000 et seq.)*  
 30 *that implement the provisions of this chapter and protect the public against incompetent, unqualified,*  
 31 *unscrupulous, or unfit persons engaging in the activities regulated by this chapter. The regulations shall*  
 32 *include requirements for (i) initial and renewal certification, (ii) standards of practice for certified NG*  
 33 *automobile mechanics and technicians, (iii) grounds for disciplinary actions against persons certified*  
 34 *under this chapter, and (iv) records to be kept and maintained by persons certified under this chapter.*

35 *2. Charge each applicant for certification and for renewal of certification a nonrefundable fee*  
 36 *subject to the provisions of § 54.1-113.*

37 *3. Conduct investigations to determine the suitability of applicants for certification and to determine*  
 38 *the certificate holder's compliance with applicable statutes and regulations.*

39 **§ 54.1-2357. Certification required.**

40 *No person shall use or assume the title "Certified NG Automobile Mechanic" or "Certified NG*  
 41 *Automobile Technician" or any words, letters, signs, or devices to indicate that person is a certified NG*  
 42 *automobile mechanic or technician unless certified by the Director.*

43 **§ 54.1-2358. Issuance of certification; waiver of examination.**

44 *The Director shall issue a certification to practice as an NG automobile mechanic or technician in*  
 45 *the Commonwealth to every applicant who shall have complied with the requirements of this chapter*  
 46 *and the regulations of the Director.*

47 *The Director shall certify any person who is a graduate of a program accredited by an accrediting*  
 48 *organization or a professional program approved by the Director and who has one year of monitored*  
 49 *experience in the performance of services relating to the repair or maintenance of motor vehicles and*  
 50 *who has taken and passed the examination for certification.*

51 *The Director, in his discretion, shall determine whether an applicant's professional education and*  
 52 *professional experience in the field of natural gas automobile mechanics are sufficient to establish*  
 53 *eligibility for the examination.*

54 *The Director, in lieu of all examinations, may accept satisfactory evidence of licensing or*  
 55 *certification in another state or country or the District of Columbia where (i) the qualifications for such*  
 56 *licensure or certification are equal, in the opinion of the Director, to the qualifications required by the*

**57** *provisions of this chapter as of the date of application and (ii) the applicant is the holder of a license*  
**58** *or certificate in good standing. Upon receipt of such satisfactory evidence and provided all other such*  
**59** *requirements of this chapter are complied with, a certificate shall be issued to such applicant.*